Monthly Report Template for COMPETE Grantees

Grantee: Sustainable Harvest at Origin/Africa Ltd

Report for the month of: February 2012

Activities Activities should be directly in- line with your grant agreement	Activity Status If the activity has been accomplished, please give results. If the activity has not been accomplished, please provide an explanation.
To link input suppliers with producers and producers with buyers	Two containers of Kilicafe speciality coffee purchased by Mars Drinks in the UK and Dillanos in the US respectively shipped in the month of February.
To conduct trainings on: -Quality management training workshops -Wet mill management workshops -RFID/cell phone use workshops -RITS system workshops for dry mill managers and cuppers	On February 13th, ten RITS users from the Northern RITS groups attended a second training session on tracking CPU expenses using an online spreadsheet in GoogleDocs. The groups shared challenges faced - two groups have very limited internet connections and are unable to open the spreadsheet. Kilicafe and Sustainable Harvest will collaborate to arrive at the best decision for moving forward. This may be to use an offline spreadsheet that would be sent to the Kilicafe accounting team via email when a connection is available.
Collection, bulking, cleaning, sorting, drying, storage of RITS tracked coffee at the dry mill	In the month of February, Kilicafe closed the 2011/2012 season. No coffee was collected at the RITS washing stations. The 2012/2013 harvest is due to commence in May.
To begin implementing the nocosts extension	This month, Carly Griggs traveled with Rashid Bushiri, Kilicafe Northern Chapter Production Officer, to visit a further seven new potential groups to include in the RITS program in 2012. The final five groups to enter into the RITS program will be chosen during the first week of March. Training is due to commence at the end of March.

Additional Information:

This month, Carly Griggs and Laura Paslawski, Sustainable Harvest's African Programs Director had an important meeting with Geoffrey Mwa Ngulumbi, Kilicafe's Managing Director, to discuss RITS moving forward. Funding for RITS under USAID/COMPETE terminates in May 2012. Sustainable Harvest have submitted two proposals to new funders to continue the RITS program with Kilicafe but to date have not received any feedback. In light of this, it is important to ensure Kilicafe can sustainably manage RITS in the absence of continued funding. Sustainable Harvest staff presented Geoffrey with a

business plan for moving forward presenting two developed options. The first was to continue with the current RITS online and Kilicafe would take on hosting costs. This option required Kilicafe to hire a part-time IT expert to maintain the system. The second option was to move RITS to a software with offline capacities, such as Excel. This option was presented as the more scalable of the two. Out of the 10 new Kilicafe groups visited since January 2012 only three had an internet connection. Giving RITS offline capacity would allow more groups to benefit from the system. It is also cheaper to purchase software than to host a website. In light of the advantages, disadvantages and budgets presented for expanding under each scenario, Geoffrey finally decided that for Kilicafe the optimum system for moving forward would be offline. Data would then be sent on a timely basis via email. This could even be done when accountants have to travel to the Kilicafe headquarters on a bi-monthly basis. Sustainable Harvest are now collaborating with Kilicafe to decide on the best software moving forward, whether that be Excel or something similar. Sustainable Harvest will use the remaining funds under the USAID/ Compete grant to re-train current users as well as 10 new users on use of the new RITS. The possibility of switching systems based on Kilicafe feedback was discussed with Steve Walls and Susan McGee during EAFCA.